Narragansett Historical Society

October

2014



Membership Drive

With our season coming to an end, we cannot sit idle and wait for the snow to fall. Now is the time to talk to your neighbors and co-workers about joining the Historical Society. Each member is vital in our effort to preserve the building and the collection left to us over the years. Just by joining, each member helps cement our commitment and offers support to those who volunteer their time. We all have different ways to show our support, liking us on Facebook, sending positive comments through emails and face to face conversations, taking an hour out of our busy week to help out in a small project, or becoming an officer, Director, or a Trustee.

If you get the comment that "I am too busy and can't take the time to help" simply suggest that joining now is commitment enough and a great start in helping us pay our bills. Once you become a member, you will be updated via email on all of our activities, successes, and issues at hand. The monthly newsletter will keep you up to date and eventually you will find that one event or meeting that you just can't miss.

Each member has that something special to offer and without new members, our Society will eventually become stagnant.

This month you will see what our new members have pulled together to create a better more vibrant Society. Participation in projects has grown to unheard of levels in any organization. This in turn has motivated our lifetime members to become more active and enjoy each event with a renewed vigor.

Request a membership application via our email, it will arrive in a .pdf format for easy printing or emailing to a friend. Spread the word and do your part in making sure our Historical Society grows with the times and can be strong enough to survive the price increases we have to digest each month. Suggest to your business friends to follow along and support our Mission to preserve Templeton's rich history, Sponsorship will guarantee our efforts to preserve our artifacts properly. We are not funded by any State, Local, or Federal funds. We are stronger in numbers. Sign someone up today!

Lifetime memberships are still only \$100.00, Best deal in town.

Cemetery Tour followup

On Saturday September 20, approximately 19 people attended the Revolutionary War Cemetery Tour held by the Narragansett Historical Society. Beth Arsenault introduced each hour attendees to the set stage in the church back cemetery, Ken Knowlton portrayed his 5th great grand father Ezekiel Knowlton, Virginia Strahan spoke as the widow of a deceased war patriot Joshua Whitcomb, a Templeton farmer who died at the Battle of Bunker hill. After viewing the presentations and self touring the cemetery most attending walked to the building for touring and refreshments of Apple pie, cheese, fruits and tea or cider. \$230.00 was raised.

Beth Arsenault, Vice President



Ken Knowlton

Tour visitors

Volunteer food servers

Gift DONATIONS

The Society is proposing anyone interested in donating items to the Society in the future consider having it in Archival Condition. This will better preserve the item for future years

DONATIONS ACCEPTED	
YES! I would like to make a donation to the Narragansett Historical Society I/We have enclosed a check in the amount of \$	
Name Address	
CityStateZip	
THANK YOU	
Narragansett Historical Society and send to	
NHS, PO Box 354, Templeton, MA 01468.	
Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.	_

Engine Show followup

Our second annual Engine, Car, Truck & tractor show was more successful than our first event. The common was filled with muscle cars, farm engines, tractors and early cars from 1900 and up. Our food tent was a huge success run by Karen Rich and Mary Grimes, along with many volunteers from our Historical Society and the Narragansett Regional High School Students from the Rho Kappa Social studies honor society. The CERT team showed up in numbers to offer their support for our event and the Central Mass steam, gas & machinery Assoc. came out to help promote our efforts in fundraising. Thanks to Alan Mayo and the town of Templeton for everything done to pull off this great day of family fun.















The Thousand Acre Jazz band played great tunes filling the common and making the day more enjoyable for all.



Check Us Out at: www.narragansetthistoricalsociety.org OR on FACEBOOK

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Member profile Karen Rich

Karen Rich

I was born, raised and educated in Worcester. Most of my 35 year career was spent as a Psychiatric nurse and clinician in the hospital and in the community, the last few years working in HR at the new Worcester recovery and Treatment Hospital, and as an adjunct faculty member of Mount Wachusett Community College.

Having raised our pet dogs for many years, and doing obedience training with my husband, Dennis, helped guide me to the next step in my life, after retirement - becoming a dog trainer. We trained our dog, Mya, to become a wonderful therapy dog. We do animal-assisted therapy at area hospitals, rehab centers and senior centers. I am a tester/observer for Therapy Dogs, Inc, and am a Canine Good Citizen evaluator for the American Kennel Club. I do dog training classes on Saturdays and run advanced training classes during the week, and I am currently sitting for a national exam, to become a professional trainer. I will soon be teaching others about therapy dogs.

My husband was born and raised in Templeton, and has his roots here. I joined the Narragansett Historical Society at his urging. My goal, as a new director, is to move the society forward in the areas of event planning and fundraising. I've worked on teas, soup suppers, organized the Wolf talk program, applied for grants, and I am actively working on the food for the 2nd Annual Engine Show. I'd very much like to see the society flourish and make enough money to grow and prosper.



Cabin Fever Collectors Show

Do you have a collection that you treasure? Maybe you have been saving up for years, only to have them collecting dust in your house. We are planning on a winter event that will showcase each of your collections. Whether you save postcards, Barbie dolls, toys, pocket watches, quilts, sewing tools, or hood ornaments we want to display them for the public to see. In the next few months details will be finalized, forms will be created, and a location will be secured. Tentatively we are thinking of Feb. 28th Saturday afternoon at Kamaloht where owner Tom Royer has graciously agreed to host our unique event. This is not a yard sale, it is a multi member collections display. Visitors will be interested to see the many different items not usually seen in public. Refreshments, conversations, and a nice way to spend the afternoon on a winter day. Stay tuned for our Cabin Fever Collectors show.







Pumpkin Festival

Saturday Oct. 25

On the Templeton Common

sponsored by the Narragansett Historical Society (1 Boynton Street, Templeton, Mass.)

SEE MADAME VOLKA — FORTUNE TELLER

- Carved pumpkin contest; \$2 entry fee; bring your pre-carved pumpkin
- Pumpkin lighting at 6:30 p.m.
- Scarecrow display
- Food tent
- Halloween games for all ages
- Penny toss; bring your pennies to benefit the Narragansett Historical Society
- Costumes encouraged!

3-8 p.m.

RAIN DATE Oct. 26

Check Us Out at: www.narragansetthistoricalsociety.org OR on FACEBOOK

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"A moment in time"

by: Harry Aldrich Jr. Historian

The Templeton Lunch

The Templeton Lunch was a favorite hang out when I was growing up. There would probably be four or five of us at any given time and we were allowed to hang out there as long as we didn't make a commotion and sat in the booth that was in the back corner of the building or played the pinball machine. Once in a while we would get out of hand and be asked to leave. We usually did as we were told and returned later and all was forgotten.

The lunch was owned and operated by Hervy and Ruth Cormier. Hervy was always known as Snowball by most that knew him. I can remember when I was around eight or ten years old, Hervy would set up a pop corn machine that he had in front of his house on the sidewalk and sell pop corn. The machine was on wheels and he would roll it out in the evening and weekends. During the day he worked for Gem Crib in Gardner.

Later he put up a small building and started selling hot dogs and burgers too. As his business grew he eventually added on to the building and gained a reputation for serving breakfast and home cooked meals. My Aunt Clara worked for him for many years baking pies and cooking

meals and Snowball operated the grill.

The business thrived for many years until Snowball passed on. After that it slowly dwindled out and never got back up to par again. Several different people tried starting it up again but it would never be the same. The building still stands but has been closed for years. It's last business was a bakery and the building is now vacant located next door to Nygard's overlooking the common.



President Posting

by: Brian Tanguay



- It's been such a busy summer, and the fall is looking to be just as hectic. Windows are being finished up soon, the record keeping system is half way there, and the leaves are falling faster than a Nascar race.
- Anyone willing to take a small section of the back yard and rake the leaves it would help tremendously. With only a few of us doing yard work, it becomes a very large and strenuous job. The leaves can be dragged out back to the leaf pile near the very large tree logs. No meetings, no appointment, just stop by when you have a chance and dig in. From all of us, Thank you.
- We are still going strong with our Tuesday "Night at the Museum" open from 6 to 8pm we have a wide selection of things to do and subjects to discuss. A great time for a short meeting with your committee, or just hang out and share a story or two. If only we could start the pot belly stove, we would have the heat to keep the place warmer on those soon to be cold winter nights. At least the insulation will keep our heat inside longer this year.
- Our final push for the attic insulation looks to be Sunday November 2nd around 10am. An email blast will finalize the time, so if you are available, we could use another hand to keep the hopper full. Taylor Rental owner, Madeline Gamache has donated the use of the machine for the weekend.

Fundraising is a tough task, asking for money is harder than asking for a hand.

- Websites are created to help with this task, such as gofundme.com designed to access your email address list, or our Facebook friends list. Once invited, our friends' will share our page with others who they feel will contribute, they see that Harry donated \$100.00 and Mary gave \$50.00 and so on, the tally rises with the donations from our list, and soon, hopefully, it will reach others willing to give to our cause.
- Imagine, if all of our Facebook friends generated \$100.00 each with the help of a few of their friends, that would be just over \$80,000.00 placed into our general fund giving us the money to invest in long term dividend paying companies making enough to sustain our monthly bills, leaving us the money needed to maintain our building and start a preservation program for our hundreds of artifacts.
- Let's talk about setting up a program like this at our next meeting. Your ideas and suggestions are always welcome, email them to me today! Brian



Meeting Notice: 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM unless otherwise advertised.

October 22nd Wednesday night at 7:00 pm in the Document room

November meeting falls on the day before Thanksgiving New date to be determined. Location could be at the new town offices in East Templeton.



Varragansett Historical Society P.O. Box 354 Templeton, MA 01468